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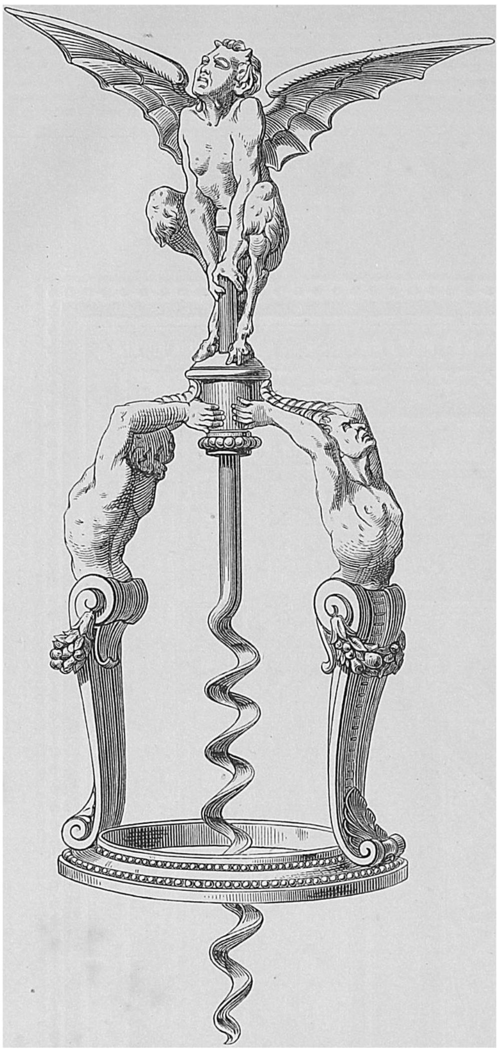

No. 25. Bronze Cork-Screw.
Mr. Högg, Heilbronn.

VARIOUS.

Bricks from Coke and Lime.

We are accustomed to both hearing and seeing new and improved machinery for brickmaking, but we are not accustomed to either hear of or see anything but the old material, clay, used for making bricks. Our German friends are ahead of us in this line, as it appears they make bricks from coke, which are reported as being light and durable, and adapted for fence walling, and if they are as good as represented, they would do capitally for inside work and various other purposes where common bricks are used. The following is the description given by M. O. Wagner of making bricks with coke and lime. He employs from ten to twelve parts of coke as it comes from the retorts; and after breaking them up until no piece remains of more than 2 in. in any way, he then adds one part of fresh burnt lime, which is spread over the coke, and slaked with water until all is moist. The whole is then passed through a pug mill, and afterwards left untouched for a day or two to allow of its becoming dry enough to pass through the brick making machine. The bricks when made are left to dry on boards for some days when the surfaces are dressed. He recommends the drying to be effected in warm weather in the shade. The bricks may be used within a week or a fortnight after they are made, and a wall built of them is said to become more solid every day. On this system the thickness of the brick may be augmented without inconvenience, and from 3 in. to 4 in. is a common thickness. Such bricks make a light and very dry wall, and are fit for fencing purposes. *"Builders' Trade Circular."*

Type-founding and Printing in Japan.

It is interesting, says *"Nature"*, to note the progress the Japanese are making in the art of printing, etc. Hitherto they have only been acquainted with the Chinese mode of printing, from engraved wooden blocks. Lately, however, they have engaged the services of an English gentleman, to set up for them an establishment for type-founding, electrotyping and printing on the western method, and to give them such instruction in these arts as will enable them afterwards to carry on the business. — Type-founding and electrotyping have now for the first time been introduced into Japan.

To remove Paint from Stone.

Mr. S. B. Burton in *the Builder* states that in restoring a church he had to clean a pulpit and sedilia in which the carving and tracery were almost filled up with successive coats of paint. He found that 3 lb. of soda to a gallon of water, laid on with a common paintbrush answered the purpose admirably, softening the paint in a short time, so that it was easily removed with a stiff scrubbing brush; afterwards, on adding a few ounces of potash to the solution, it softened more readily than with soda only. The stone in both cases was a fine freestone, not unlike Caen.

According to J. R. in the same, it will be found that if the object can be placed in a solution of pearlash, or common potash, the paint softens in a few hours and must be carefully cleaned off, and the object again placed in the solution if necessary. The time and expense depend on the number of coats of paint to take off; if the solution be applied hot so much the better.

Bronzing Copper Urns.

The surface, first made thoroughly clean and bright, is covered with a thick coat of rouge and water; when dry, the article is placed in a clear hollow fire (say a chamber of bricks, red hot) for a short time until the rouge has turned to the desired shade of color. Then the article is placed on a suitable stand, and polished with a soft brush and rouge powder, and afterwards with soft leather. The tinning and soldering are subsequent operations.

Elastic and Sweet Glue.

Good common glue is dissolved in water, on the water bath, and the water evaporated down to a mass of thick consistence, to which a quantity of glycerine, equal in weight to the glue, is added, after which the heating is continued until all the water has been driven off, when the mass is poured out into moulds, or on a marble slab. This mixture answers for stamps, printers' rollers, galvanoplastic copies, etc. The sweet glue, for ready use by moistening with the tongue, is made in the same way, substituting, however, the same quantity of powdered sugar for the glycerine. *(Scientific American.)*

Cement for Leather.

A good water-proof cement or glue, for holding wood or leather, may be made by dissolving fine shreds of india-rubber in warm copal varnish. The material to be united should be made clean, and be perfectly dry at the time of applying the cement.